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means for comparing the detected alignment with a predetermined alignment.

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74. A component transfer apparatus, comprising:
component conveying means;
means for detecting the alignment of a component adjacent said component conveying means; and
means for comparing the detected alignment with a predetermined alignment.

75. The apparatus of claim 74, further comprising signal means indicative of whether the detected alignment corresponds to the predetermined alignment.--

REMARKS

Status of the Application

The Subject Application is a divisional application based on U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/915,862, filed August 21, 1997 (the "Parent Application").

In the Parent Application, the Examiner required election of one of the following inventions:

- IA. Claims 1 through 12, drawn to a method of placing a component having leads to a substrate;
- IB. Claim 13, drawn to a method of attaching a component to a substrate;
- IC. Claim 14, drawn to a method of verifying a predetermined lead alignment of a component;
- ID. Claims 15 through 20, drawn to a method of picking a component having a predetermined lead alignment;
- IIA. Claims 21 and 41, drawn to a component alignment detection apparatus;
- IIB. Claims 22 through 29, 42 and 43 drawn to an apparatus for moving components;

- IIC. Claims 30 through 37, drawn to an apparatus for moving components; and
- IID. Claims 38 through 40, drawn to an apparatus for moving components.

In response to that restriction requirement, claims 21 and 41 were elected and the remaining claims were withdrawn from the Parent Application. Accordingly, the Subject Application is directed to subject matter related to Invention IIC, claims 30-37 of the Parent Application.

Amendments to the Abstract

Applicant requests that the abstract of the Subject Application be replaced with the amended abstract presented hereinabove. The abstract has been amended so as to be directed toward the subject matter claimed in the Subject Application.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicant requests that the Specification of the Subject Application be amended as indicated hereinabove. The Title is amended to be descriptive of the Subject Application. The second amendment to the Specification presented hereinabove is presented to indicate that the Subject Application is a divisional application of the Parent Application.

Claim Amendments

Original claims 1-29 and 38-43 have been withdrawn herein to advance the prosecution of the Subject Application, and without admitting the propriety of any rejections or objections to those claims. Claims 30 and 35 are amended hereinabove to clarify the subject matter claimed. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that those amendments be entered.

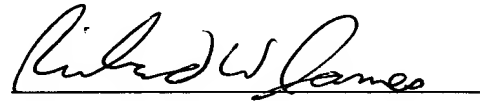
New Claims

Applicant requests that new claims 44-75, support for which may be found throughout the specification, be added to the Subject Application.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that no new matter is introduced in the amendments proposed hereinabove and respectfully requests that the Examiner enter those amendments prior to the examination of the Subject Application. Furthermore, examination and passage to allowance of the Subject Application at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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